

Serial No. 10/659,186
Applicant: Kenneth W. Gatten
Amendment dated June 30, 2005
Attorney Docket No.: 1-730
Confirmation No. 7490

Remarks

Objection to Claim 22 - Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 22 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 22 is amended herein and rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Based on the foregoing, withdrawal of the objection and allowance of claim 22 are respectfully requested.

Objections to Claims 21, "second" instance of claim 24, 25, and 26

Claims 21, "second" instance of claims 24, 25, and 26 were objected to because of cited claim informalities.

Claim 21 is cancelled herein and so the objection is moot. Claim 22 is rewritten in independent form and care was taken not to include the informalities cited in the base claim 21.

The "second" instance of claim 24, 25 and 26 have been rewritten herein to cure the informalities cited by the examiner and to depend from allowable claim 22. Withdrawal of the objection and allowance of claims 24, 26, and 27 are respectfully requested.

Rejection of Claims 21 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Claims 21 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b).

Claims 21 and 23 are cancelled herein, thereby rendering the rejections moot.

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Rejection of Claims 24 and 25-27 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 24 and 25-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claim 24 is cancelled herein, thereby rendering the rejection moot.

Claims 25-27 have been rewritten to depend from allowable claim 22. Withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of amended claims 25-27 are respectfully requested.

Newly Added Claims 28-30

Claims 28-30 each depend from allowable claim 22.

Claims 28-30 recite additional limitations to the fasteners between pads and are supported by the specification and application Figure 8. Allowance of claims 28-30 is respectfully requested.

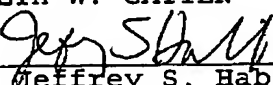
Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that, as amended, the application is in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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By


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